

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully request that the foregoing amendments to Claims 4, 8-10, 13, 15-18 and 21 be entered in order to avoid this application incurring a surcharge for the presence of one or more multiple dependent claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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MARKED UP VERSION OF CLAIMS

4. (Amended) The method of [any one of claims 1 to 3] claim 1, wherein the single-stranded nucleic acid probe sample is a mixture of the homologous probe and at least one type of heterologous probe.

8. (Amended) The method of [any one of claims 1, 6, and 7] claim 1, wherein the RecA-like recombinase has a label or a ligand.

9. (Amended) The method of [any one of claims 1 to 7] claim 1, wherein the homologous probe has a label or a ligand.

10. (Amended) A kit comprising the RecA-like recombinase and the nonhydrolyzable nucleotide co-factor, the kit being used for preparing the RecA-like recombinase/single-stranded nucleic acid probe complex of [any one of claims 1 to 9] claim 1.

13. (Amended) The method of [any one of claims 8, 9, 11, and 12] claim 8, wherein the label or ligand is biotin or digoxigenin.

15. (Amended) A method for detecting a double-stranded target nucleic acid in a fixed cell sample by *in situ* hybridization, wherein the RecA-like recombinase/single-stranded nucleic acid probe complex prepared by the method of claim 8 [or 9] is used.

16. (Amended) A method for targeting a double-stranded target nucleic acid in a living cell sample by *in vivo* gene targeting, wherein the RecA-like recombinase/single-stranded nucleic acid probe complex prepared by the method of [any one of claims 1 to 9] claim 1 is used.

17. (Amended) The method of [any one of claims 1, 11, 12, 15, and 16] claim 1, wherein the double-stranded target nucleic acid is double-stranded target DNA.

18. (Amended) The method of [any one of claims 11 to 16] claim 16, wherein the RecA-like recombinase/single-stranded nucleic acid probe complex is reacted with a

sample containing the double-stranded target nucleic acid in the presence of monovalent cations.

21. (Amended) A kit for targeting, enriching, detecting, and/or isolating double-stranded target nucleic acid in a sample, the kit comprising the RecA-like recombinase/single-stranded nucleic acid probe complex prepared by a method of [any one of claims 1 to 9] claim 1.

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